

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
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UNCLAS STATE 208341

ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 31 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS YUGOLSAVIA'S TITO 1ST FOREIGNER
VISIT MAO'S TSE-TUNG'S MAUSOLEUM 8/31, UNDERLINING
SPECTULAR WELCOME TITO HAS RECEIVED. EARLIER, 100,000
DANCING, CHANTING PEOPLE GREETED TITO ARRIVAL. HUA KUO-
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FENG ALSO TOLD TITO THAT MAO WANTED MEET HIM/HAD PRAISED
HIM FOR "DEFYING PRESSURE" FROM SOVIETS. 8/30 TITO/PARTY
CONFERRED W/HIGH POWER PRC NEGOTIATING TEAM OF HUA, TENG
HSIAO-PING AND LI HSIEN-NIEN. ISAACS (SUN, HK) NOTED PRC
WHICH ONCE REVILED TITO AS COMMUNISM'S ARCH TRAITOR GAVE
HIM ONE OF MOST ELABORATE RECEPTIONS EVER ACCORDED FON
VISITOR. IMPROVED RELS SEEN AS ATTEMPT ON PAT PRC LINK
W/OTHER COUNTRIES AS COUNTER TO SOVIET INFLUENCE.

MUNRO (WP) SAYS IDEOLOGICALLY PRC NOT RECONCILED TO YUGO'S

LIBERAL VERSION COMMUNISM BUT SUCH DIFFERENCES BEING PLAYED DOWN DURING TITO VISIT. AT 8/30 PM BANQUET, HOSTED BY HUA PRC/YUGO GIVE DIFFERING ASSESSMENT CHANCES OF WORLD WAR: PRC BELIEVES SUCH INEVITABLE AS OUTGROWTH US/USSR RIVALRY; YUGO SAYS AVOIDABLE.

NYT (HK) REPORTS TITO VISIT LARGELY CEREMONIAL, NOT EXPECTED PRODUCE MAJOR AGREEMENTS. PRC, TO AVOID EMBARRASSING TITO, ALSO TONED DOWN ATTACKS ON USSR. PREDICTS VISIT MAY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT PRC/ALBANIA RELS. NYT/SUN/WP ALL CARRY UPI PIX HUA GREETING TITO AT PEKING AIRPORT.

CORDDY (SUN, HK) REPORTS PRC OFFICIALS NOW SAYING MAY HAVE TO USE FORCE TO GET TAIWAN; FROM TAIWAN COME REPORTS OF UNUSUALLY LARGE AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING EXERCISES. SAYS PRIVATE TALKS ON USE OF FORCE VIEWED AS TOUGHER PEKING STANCE THAT WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY US MIL IN PACIFIC BUT THAT AT PRESENT, PRC LACKS MIL CAPABILITY TO PRESS FORWARD.

BUTTERFIELD (NYT 8/30); MORITZ (CSM); BEECH (CDN 8/26) ALL DO IMPRESSIONISTIC PIECES ON CHANGING MOOD IN PRC, WHICH SEEN AS MORE "RELAXED, FREER, CALMER."
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CONTINUING POL STRIFE REPROTED FROM PRC'S EASTERN PROVINCE ANHWEI, SEEN AS 1ST INDICATION OF STRUGGLE BETW RADICAL ELEMENTS/NEW MODERATE LEADERSHIP SINCE END OF 11TH CCP CONGRESS. LOCAL EDITORIAL WARNED IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CONGRESS POLICIES "WILL CERTAINLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY ACUTE AND COMPLEX STRUGGLES." ANHWEI, A HOTBED OF RADICALISM, HAD PROVINCIAL PARTY CHIEF PURGED 2 MOS AGO WHEN PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SENT 3 OFFICIALS TO TAKE OVER LOCAL ADMIN (REUTER, PEKING).

IN RECENT PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, NEW LEADERSHIP REITERATED OPPOSITION ACCEPT LOANS FROM FON BANKS/GOVTS. FACT IS THAT PRC HAS ACCEPTED BILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF SHORT/MEDIUM TERM LOAN CREDITS FROM OUTSIDERS. PRC JUSTIFIES CONTRADICTION BETW REALITY/POLICY BY NOT ACKNOWLEDGING CREDITS AS DEBTS/CREDITS NOT DIRECTLY FINANCED BY BANKS/GOVTS (KRAMER, WSJ).

ACCORDING CIA REPORTS, PRC ECONOMY IN POOR SHAPE. GNP IN '76 SHOWED NO GROWTH; PROSPECTS FOR '77 MIXED. FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO BLEAK OUTLOOK INCL '76 EARTHQUAKES; POL DISRUPTION DURING MAO-HUA TRANSITION; POOR ALLOCATION CRITICAL RESOURCES. CIA REPORTS TO BOLSTER ECONOMY, PRC WILL OPT FOR GREATER INVESTMENT AGRIC/INDUSTRY; DOWNPLAY IDEOLOGY FOR GREATER STRESS ON TECHNICAL/SCIENTIFIC COMPETENCE/ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (DILLIN, CSM).

PRC'S AMBASSADOR TO SOVIET USSR, WANG YU-PING ARRIVED IN MOSCOW 8/30, 18 MOS AFTER PREDECESSOR LEFT. PRC SAID WANG DELAYED BY POOR HEALTH BUT SPECULATION IS DELAY DUE TO TENTION BETW PRC/USSR (AP PHINQ, BALTO NA 8/30).

DELEGATION AP EXECUTIVES/DIRECTORS/WIVES BEGIN 2 WK VISIT TO PRC 8/31. VISIT IN SUPPORT OF AP EFFORT TO ESTABLISH BUREAU IN PEKING (AP, WP).
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CHENG CHAO-CHANG, DEPUTY COMMANDER FUKIEN MIL DISTRICT, DIED "A MARTYR AT HIS POST" ACCORDING PROVINCIAL RADIO. "MARTYR" IN PRC PARLANCE SUGGESTS VIOLENT, THO PERHAPS, ACCIDENTIAL DEATH. IDENTICAL LANGUAGE USED '76 TO REPORT DEATH PI TING-CHUN COMMANDER OF MIL REGION THAT INCLS FUKIEN.

PRC TEAM OF SOCCER PLAYERS TO PLAY 5 MATCHES THRUOUT US IN OCT. NY'S COSMOS TO VISIT PRC 9/15-21 (YANNIS, NYT).

ROC CONTINUES CAMPAIGN URGING CITIZENS REMAIN CALM DESPITE US MOVES TOWARD PRC. CIGARETTE PACKAGES CARRY GOVT SLOGAN "STAY CALM IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY." ON TV SHOW, PRC DEFECTOR PILOT FAN YAN-YEN NIGHTLY TELLS OF HORRID CONDITIONS IN PRC. FON MIN REJECTED ANY AGREEMENT BETW US/PRC ON TAIWAN ISSUE THAT MIGHT HAVE RESULTED FROM VANCE MISSION (REUTER, TAIPEI).

ROYAL OBSERVATORY IN HK REPORTS INTENSE EARTHQUAKE IN SW CHINA BUT NO CONFIRMATION SO FAR FROM PRC (UPI, GLOBE).

2. INDOCHINA

SOME MEMBERS OLD SVN REGIME WILL BE RELEASED FROM RE-EDUCATION CAMPS AS PART OF CELEBRATION FRI 32ND ANNIV HO CHI MINH'S DECLARATION IND FROM FRANCE. AMNESTY WILL BE GRANTED TO SOME WHO, ACCORDING NATL ASSEMBLY, "HAVE DONE WELL" IN CAMPS. EXACT NUMBER TO BE RELEASED NOT KNOWN, BUT UP TO 100,000 STILL IN CAMPS (AP, WP).

3. THAILAND

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RELATIVES OF GROUP YOUNG THAIS DUE TO GO ON TRIAL MON FOR TREASON/INSULTING MONARCHY/COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES HAVE SENT LTRS TO PRES CARTER/US CONGRESSMEN/UN SG WALDHEIM, ASKING FOR FAIR TRIAL. TRIAL OF 18 (ONLY PERSONS TO COME TO TRIAL OUT OF 3,000 ARRESTED LAST OCT IN STUDENT-POLICE VIOLENCE AT THAMMASAT U) HAS AROUSED INTEREST AMONG HUMAN

RTS GROUPS SINCE NO DEFENSE LAWYERS BE ALLOWED PARTICIPATE
(REUTER, BANGKOK).

4. MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA HAS OBTAINED DELAY IN DELIVERY OF 5 LIQUEFIED
NATURAL GAS CARRIERS IT ORDERED FROM FRENCH SINCE LNG
PLANT IN BORNEO WILL NOT BE PRODUCING BEFORE '83. THE
735 MIL DOL CARRIERS WILL TRANSPORT LNG FROM BORNEO TO
JAPAN (LORENZ, JOC).

5. PHILIPPINES

NO REPORTS/CASUALTIES YET AVAILABLE IN EARTHQUAKE,
REGISTERING 6.0, WHICH HIT LUZON REGION MON AM. REPORTS
OF QUAKE IN CHINA NOW BELIEVED FALSE (REUTER, 8/30).

6. AUSTRALIA

4 ABORIGINES HAVE TAKEN OUT WRITS IN HIGH COURT TO PREVENT
URANIUM MINING/DEMAND 170 BIL DOLS FROM AUSTRALIAN/
BRITISH GOVTS FOR LOSS OF ABORIGINAL LAND OVER PAST 200
YRS. BAN ON URANIUM MINING JUST LIFTED LAST WK (REUTER,
SYDNEY 8/30).

OIL DISCOVERED IN REMOTE AREA S AUSTRALIA BY CONSORTIUM,
WESTERN MINING CORP (AP, SYDNEY 8/30)

7. JAPAN

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US TRADE REP STRAUSS POSTPONED NEXT WK'S SCHEDULED
TOKYO VISIT; AMEMB GAVE NO DETAILS. STRAUSS WAS TO
VISIT TOKYO FOR TALKS ON JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS W/US,
BUT WAS TOLD BY CARTER STAY IN WASHINGTON FOR CONGRESSION-
AL BUSINESS (REUTER TOKYO).

AT 8/31 PRESS LUNCHEON IN TOKYO, SEN JOHN GLENN (D-OHIO)
SAID JAPAN SHOULD UPGRADE DEF EQUIPMENT/MODERNIZE WEAPONS.
TERMED IT "DIFFICULT" FOR US UNDERSTAND WHY JAPAN CANNOT
SPEND MORE ON DEF (REUTER TOKYO).

CHITRIB DOES ITEM ON BRITISH STEEL CORP'S RAPID DECLINE
DUE STRONG JAPANESE COMPETITION. STATES JAPANESE COMPET-
ITIVE STRENGTH ALMOST AS OVERWHELMING IN UK'S AUTO/TV
INDUSTRIES.

ARNETT (SUN) WRITES ARTICLE ON MD UNIV'S UNUSUAL LIBRARY
COLLECTION--90,000 VOLUMES ORIGINAL PRINTED MATTER RELATING
TO JAPAN DURING OCCUPATION PERIOD.

8. KOREA

STAIHAR (AP), PATTERSON/OLIPHANT (GLOBE) DO ITEMS ON HOUSE SPKR O'NEILL'; DENIAL OF SUZI PARK THOMSON'S CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY THAT TONGSUN PARK FREQUENTLY OPERATED FROM O'NEILL'S OFFICE. SPKR HAS FLATLY DENIED ALLEGATION; OTHER SOURCES SAID 8/30 THOMSON MADE NO SUCH ASSERTION. NEITHER THOMSON/HER ATTY AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT. GLOBE'S BEECHER (TOKYO) REPORTS USSR/PRC HAVE REFUSED PROVIDE ANY NEW AID TO NK, AND FOR THAT REASON, ACCORDING NHK-TV'S AKIRA OGATA--WHO RECENTLY SPENT 2 WKS THERE--NK ANXIOUS IMPROVE RELS W/US, JAPAN. OGATA QUOTED KIM IL-SUNG/OTHER NK OFFICIALS AS SAYING THEY WANT TRADE/TECH-UNCLASSIFIED

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NOLOGY FROM US TO BOLSTER ECONOMY/MODERNIZE INDUSTRY. LEADERS ALSO INSISTED THEY FEARED ATTACK FROM SK. DIPLO SOURCES IN TOKYO, HOWEVER, SAY "UNLIKELY IN THE EXTREME" THAT US WOULD CONSIDER ANY SUCH OFFICIAL/UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS W/NK. RE JAPAN AIDING NK, TOKYO OBSERVERS THINK JAPAN WILL TRY KEEP BOTH KOREAS MOLLIFIED "AT LOWEST POSSIBLE COST."

SPEAKING IN SEOUL 8/30, RANKING OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBER SONG WON TONG CALLED ON SK PARLIAMENT TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES OF KOREA'S ALLEGEDLY ILLEGAL INFLUENCE BUYING SCHEME IN WASHINGTON. SAID HIS PARTY HOPED HAVE TONGSUN PARK TESTIFY NEXT MONTH. OFFICIAL PARTY STATEMENT HAS CALLED ON PARK "ACTIVELY TRY TO CLEAR KOREA'S HONOR IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY," BUT HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSE (NYT).

WP'S BABCOCK DOES ARTICLE RE US REFUSAL 1974 REQUEST FOR POL ASYLUM BY CHANG SUNGNAM, THEN WASHINGTON NEWSPAPER EDIT WHO OPPOSED ROKG. SAYS REVIEW OF REQUEST RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT WAY DOS/INS HANDLE SUCH CASES. QUOTES DOS' CARLIN--OF REFUGEE/MIGRATION AFFAIRS--THAT US DOESN'T HAVE POLICY OF PERFUNCTORILY REJECTING ASYLUM REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS OF ALLIED GOVTS. ALSO NOTES CARLIN'S SURPRISE INS REJECTION, SINCE DOS RECOMMENDED CHANG NOT BE FORCED RETURN SK.

THARP (WSJ SEOUL) REPORTS SK LIKELY BEGIN ACTIVELY ENTERING WORLD AUTO MARKET W/EXPORTS "PONY," "BRISA," AND "ROKOND." COMMERCE MINISTRY PREDICTS THAT IN 5-6 YRS, DOMESTIC/OVERSEAS MARTS WILL EXPAND ENOUGH TO ALLOW SK MEET PRODUCTION CAPACITY.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

9. CHINA

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BUTTERFIELD (NYT) NOTES TENG HSIAO-PING EMERGED AS PRC GUIDING FORCE DURING 11TH CCP CONGRESS BUT HUA KUO-FENG TO REMAIN LEADER FOR COMING YEARS. QUOTES ANALYST, THAT TENG, W/HIS EXPERIENCE, WILL PUT COUNTRY BACK INTO SHAPE AFTER YEARS WASTE SINCE GPCR, THEN HUA CAN TAKE OVER LATER. THIS LINE THINKING BASED ON TENG'S PREDOMINANCE BOTH ON COMPOSITION POLITBURO/SPEED PRC MOVING AWAY FROM BASIC MAO POLICIES. ALSO NOTED THAT AMONG NEW MEMBERS POLITBURO ARE NO REPRESENTATIVES MASS GROUPS WHICH MAO PROMOTED IN '73 TO BOLSTER HIS POSITION. ALSO NEW POLITBURO MARKS RETURN TO ITS PRC-GPCR POSITION SINCE WILL BE TREATED AS POLICY FORMULATING UNIT OF PARTY/GOVT HEADS. LATTER CHANGE ALSO SEEN DUE TENG'S INFLUENCE.

KILPATRICK (WSTAR 8/30) OPINES PUSH TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF RELS BETW US/PRC IS TALK OF "INTELLECTUALS WHO TEND TO PUT FORM AHEAD OF SUBSTANCE." CANNOT SEE THAT FULL RELS WOULD BE THAT BENEFICIAL; THAT EMBASSY INSTEAD OF LIAISON OFFICE WOULD HAVE GREATER IMPACT ON US/PRC RELS. IN VIEW PRC DEMAND THAT US CUT W/TAIWAN, SEES PRICE NORMALIZATION TOO HIGH. SAYS PRC NEEDS US MORE THAN US NEED PRC; SEES ARGUMENT IF US DOESN'T NORMALIZE NOW, THEN PRC WILL MOVE TOWARD SOVIETS AS BOGUS. NOTES THAT HUA KUO-FENG'S CCP CONGRESS ADDRESS CONTAINED NO HINTS OF SUCH A MOVE; ALSO EVEN IF SINO-SOVIET ALLIANCE FORGED, HOLD NO THREAT FOR US.

HARSCH (CSM 8/30) CONTENTS ROC/PRC IS FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEM W/NO CLEAR RIGHT/WRONG COURSE. DESIRABLE FOR US HAVE FULL RELS W/PRC SINCE ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM SOVIETS MAKES IT STABILIZING FORCE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. QUESTION IS, HOWEVER, ARE US RELS W/PRC DAMAGED BY RELS W/TAIWAN. UNCLASSIFIED

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AND IF THEY ARE, IS IT NECESSARY FOR US TO BREAK W/LATTER. SAYS IDEAL SOLUTION IS FOR PRC TO GIVE ASSURANCES NOT TAKE TAIWAN BY FORCE IN RETURN FOR NORMALIZATION W/US AND US DIPL BREAK W/TAIWAN. BUT PRC NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE THIS; US NOT IN POSITION ABANDON TAIWAN. FOR TIME BEING, ADVISES COURSE SHOULD BE FOR BOTH COUNTRIES TO FIND WAY TO SKIRT/POSTPONE RESOLVING PROBLEM.

BUCKLEY (GLOBE 8/30) SEES COURSE OF US/PRC RELATIONS AS ALWAYS US PURSUING PRC SINCE NIXON DAYS WHEN US EMISSARIES STARTED VISITING THERE. OFFERS ARGUMENT PRC HAS MUCH MORE TO GAIN FROM NORMALIZATION THAN US AND SUGGESTS PRES CONSIDER THIS IN LIGHT OF TROUBLE HE FACES ON PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. SAYS CRITICISM OF TREATIES ARISE IN PART FROM NOTION THAT US ALWAYS BEING PUSHED

AROUND BY OTHER COUNTRIES. VANCE MISSION IN CHINA REINFORCES NOTION; CARTER WOULD/COULD COUNTER THAT IMPRESSION BY BEING FIRM ON TAIWAN.

ROWAN COMMENTARY ON WTOP-TV PM NEWS TAKES EXCEPTION TO CRITICS OF VANCE MISSION WHO CHARGE IT IS 1 MORE EXAMPLE OF US KOW-TOWING TO PRC, SINCE NO MAJOR PRC LEADER HAS YET VISITED US. AT LEAST marginally, ROWAN SAYS, VANCE TRIP ADVANCED US INTERESTS BY GIVING PRES NEW ANALYSIS OF PROSPECTS FOR NORMALIZATION/ALSO OPENED DIALOGUE BETW NEW US/PRC GOVTS.

10. INDOCHINA

IN LTR TO WP CAROL BATES, EXEC DIR NATL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES, APPALLED BY PRES CARTER'S DECISION TO MAKE LAST REVIEW POWS/MIAS, DECLARE THEM LEGALLY DEAD. SAYS ADMIN RUSHING BE FRIENDS W/FORMER ENEMIES BY PURSUING UN MEMBERSHIP AND NORMALIZED RELATIONS W/SRV BEFORE ALL MIAS ACCOUNTED FOR. VIETNAMESE PLAYING CARTER FOR A SUCKER BY DOLING OUT REMAINS/INFO AT POLITICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TIMES. SAYS CARTER DECEITFUL/DISGRACEFUL IN IGNORING HIS OWN UNCLASSIFIED

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HUMAN RTS STAND.

11. KOREA

FROM DMZ, WSJ'S THARP PROFILES LT GEN CUSHMAN, WHO COMMANDS 180,000 US/SK COMBAT TROOPS. BOTH US/SK SOLDIERS RESPECT/SPEAK HIGHLY OF CUSHMAN, FIND HIM PARTICULARLY WELL-SUITED FOR COMMANDS/HIS ROLE IN US W/DRAWAL. REVIEWS STEPS GEN IS TAKING TO PREPARE KOREAN SOLDIERS FOR US PULLOUT.

IN SEOUL, THIMMESCH (CHITRIB 8/30) SAYS PRES CARTER, "IN CLUMSY, TRAUMATIZING FASHION" IS CAUSING "TREPIDATION" IN SK OVER TROOP W/DRAWAL. QUOTES EXTENSIVELY GEN VESSEY, WHO OPINES WHILE "IT'S NOT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY" KEEP US TROOPS IN SK, KIM IL-SUNG MUST UNDERSTAND US WILL STAND BEHIND SK. CITES NKOREAN HOSTILITY, WHICH THIMMESCH SAYS BEGINS AT AGE 3 AS NKOREAN CHILDREN TAUGHT HATRED TOWARD SK/US--EVEN LEARNING ARITHMETIC "BY SUBTRACTING 'FIVE SOUTH KOREAN LACKEYS' FROM '15 US IMPERIALISTS.'"

12. GENERAL

CORDDRY (SUN 8/28), AT HONOLULU, QUOTES AUTHORITIES THAT REAWAKENED APPRECIATION ASIA'S IMPORTANCE IN US STRATEGIC PLANNING HAS REVERSED TRENDS IN CARTER ADMIN TOWARD FURTHER MIL RETRENCHMENT IN PAC. SEES 3 FACTORS FORESTALLING FURTHER MIL CUT IN AREA: USSR NAVAL STRENGTH; ADVERSE REACTION IN EA/CONGRESS OVER SK PULLOUT; POL-MIL ROLE OF

PAC FORCES. SAYS EMERGING ASIAN STRATEGY ESSENTIALLY
REVIVES NIXON DOCTRINE. REVIEWS MIL PICTURE IN REGION.
WONDERS WHETHER PRESSURE OF ATL/EUR NEEDS, BUDGET
SQUEEZES WILL FORCE NEW APPRAISALS.
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SUN (8/28) CARRIES REUTER SINGAPORE ARTICLE DESCRIBING
CONTINUING ROLE FAMILY UNITY PLAYS IN AREA; ADDS TRADITION
HOLDING UP DESPITE CHANGE.

TRB OF "NEW REPUBLIC" (WSTAR 8/27) GIVES PRES CARTER
"MACHIAVELLIAN" ADVICE. NOTES PRES WANTS PULL US TROOPS
OUT OF SK. SAYS EVENTUALLY CARTER WILL BREAK W/TAIWAN TO
ESTABLISH RELS W/PRC. POINTS OUT PRES EVEN TRYING
NORMALIZE RELS W/SRV. CHRISTOPHER

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